



Indraprastha College for Women University of Delhi

Work Plan for ODD SEMESTER – 2026

Course Name:	BA (Prog.)
Paper Title:	Theory and Practice of Democracy
Unique Paper Code:	2322202302
Semester:	III
Faculty:	Amisha Pareek
Year:	2026

Work Plan			
Unit No.	Learning Objective	Lecture No.	Topics to be Covered
I	Develop a broad historical, normative and empirical understanding of the idea and practice of democracy.	1-3	Origins of the idea: Ancient Greece and India
I	Develop a broad historical, normative and empirical understanding of the idea and practice of democracy.	4-6	Modern developments
I	Distinguish different models of democracy and their normative assumptions	7-9	Procedural and substantive accounts
I	Examine current problems and understand how different democratic crises have emerged in practice	10-12	Contemporary innovations
II	Understand different theories of democracy and how different theories led to waves of democratization over history.	13-15	Theory: Liberal Representative democracy
II	Understand different theories of democracy and how different theories led to waves of democratization over history.	15-18	Theory: Participatory democracy
II	Understand different theories of democracy and how different theories led to waves of democratization over history.	18-21	Theory: Deliberative democracy
III	Apply democratic theories to critically assess political institutions and practices	22-24	Institutions: Constitutionalism
III	Apply democratic theories to critically assess political institutions and practices	25-27	Institutions: Legislatures and legislation

III	Apply democratic theories to critically assess political institutions and practices	28-30	Institutions: Political Parties
III	Apply democratic theories to critically assess political institutions and practices	31-33	Institutions: Media & the Civil Society
IV	Explain and defend how democratic theory might be used to respond to problems being faced by nation-states	34-36	Contemporary Debates: Diversity
IV	Explain and defend how democratic theory might be used to respond to problems being faced by nation-states	36-40	Contemporary Debates: Representation
IV	Explain and defend how democratic theory might be used to respond to problems being faced by nation-states	41-44	Contemporary Debates: Globalization & Global Issues

Unit	Contents/Syllabus
I	Origins of the idea: Ancient Greece and India Modern developments Procedural and substantive accounts Contemporary innovations
II	Theory: Liberal Representative democracy Participatory democracy Deliberative democracy
III	Institutions: Legislatures and legislation Political Parties Media & the Civil Society
IV	Contemporary Debates: Diversity Globalization & Global Issues
S. No.	Name of Authors/Books/Publishers
1.	Dahl, Robert. On Democracy. Yale University Press, 1998.

2.	Arblaster, Anthony. Democracy. 3rd Edition. Open University Press, 2002.
3.	Pateman, C, 'Rousseau, J. S. Mill, and G. D. H. Cole: A Participatory Theory of Democracy', in "Participation and Democratic Theory, Cambridge University Press, 1970.
4.	Gutman A, and Dennis Thompson, 'What Deliberative Democracy Means' in Why Deliberative Democracy? Princeton University Press, 2004.
5.	Freeman, M. Constitutional Democracy and the Legitimacy of Judicial Review, Law and Philosophy, 9: 327-370, 1990-1991.L
6.	Bark, A. 'Protecting the Constitution and Democracy' (Ch. 2) in Judge in a Democracy Princeton University Press, 2004.
7.	Dowding, Keith, James Hughes and Helen Margetts, Challenges to Democracy: Ideas, Institutions and Involvement. The PSA Yearbook 2000, Palgrave, 2001.

Paper Components			
Credits	Lecture (L)	Tutorial (T)	Practical (P)
4	3	1	0
Assessment Scheme			
S.No.	Component	Marking Scheme	Total Marks
1	Internal Assessment - Assignment - Class Test - Attendance		30
		12	
		12	
		6	
2.	Continuous Assessment (Tutorial) - Activity 1 - Activity 2 - Attendance		40
		15	
		20	
		5	
3.	Practical - Continuous Assessment - End Term Written/Practical Exam - Viva	N/A	
4.	End Semester Examination		90

